

CCN Subcommittee Progress Report & Recommendation(s)

Writing

Subcommittee Co-Chairs

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June 9, 2022

Date of last meeting

The writing subcommittee last met on May 20, 2022 from 2-3 pm. This was the only remaining time in the academic year that we could have enough attendance for quorum.

Plans for next meeting

We will not meet again in Spring term as a committee. There were no additional times that members could meet before going off contract for the summer.

Co-chair, Tim Jensen, is currently gathering information from committee members about their fall schedules (teaching and standing meetings), so that we can schedule all fall meetings now. Our plan is to meet for 2-hours every other week, so that we can make every effort to complete our work according to the timeline.

Overview

In spite of not being convened by the HECC until the end of April, which is when we received our charge, the Writing Subcommittee has made progress. We have agreed on course prefix and number and course credits for each course (WR 121, 122, and 227). We also made significant progress on course outcomes. We agreed to use the Council of Writing Program Administrators (CWPA) knowledge domains (rhetorical knowledge, process knowledge, etc.) as a framework to align WR 121, 122, and 227 outcomes across the state. Finally, the committee agreed on the course title for WR 227. All of the above items were agreed upon without an official vote. We decided to wait on the CCN SYS/OPS subcommittee to make its final decisions regarding the formatting of the above items.

The focus of our next meetings will be to solidify which CWPA categories we want to use to align outcomes for our courses and to come to an agreement on course titles. Once we have finished this work, we will turn our attention to creating catalog descriptions that meet the CCN SYS/OPS subcommittee's criteria of being 75% identical. Finally, we will vote officially on all of our charges.

Action Items Completed

ACTIVITY STATUS
No official votes taken, yet (see above).

Action Items In-progress/Pending

ACTIVITY STATUS
Course Prefix and Numbers Done for WR121, WR122, & WR227* (but not yet voted upon)
Course Credits Done for WR121, WR122, & WR227* (but not yet voted upon)
Course Titles In progress
Aligned Outcomes In progress
Course Descriptions Not yet started

Recommendations & Rationale

- We recommend to the Transfer Council that for these writing courses, alignment means having one learning outcome for each of the knowledge domains defined by one of the major governing organizations in our field, the

[Council of Writing Program Administrators](#), and based on years of data. These domains are shared nationally and define the course content of general education writing courses. Specifically:

- Per the charge of the Transfer Council to create aligned outcomes and as experts in our field of writing studies, we believe that using the framework shared nationally by everyone who teaches general education writing courses will best serve students by allowing for the greatest number of programs to align to and therefore deliver WR 121, WR 122, and WR 227.
- Aligning around the CWPA framework will increase transfer efficiency for out-of-state students as well because it will be easier to see the direct equivalency to our state general education writing courses. In addition, aligning this way allows non-traditional programs in our state, which embed the general education writing into a thematic experience, to more easily align and ensure that students transferring from their schools will still receive WR 121, WR 122, and/or WR 227 credit at their new school.
- Since the CWPA has four knowledge domains (rhetorical knowledge; critical thinking, reading, and composing; writing processes; and knowledge of conventions), we recommend that each writing course has a minimum of four learning outcomes aligned directly to these domains, with definitions for each of these domains provided by the Writing Subcommittee once approved.

Questions for Transfer Council

- None

Other Notes

- We urge the Transfer Council to reconsider the Nov. 4 timeline while at the same time acknowledging that we are trying our best to meet it. We are STRUGGLING to schedule meetings where we can have quorum. Faculty have not been released from their teaching, service, or

research commitments to engage in this work. Contracts don't begin until September 15th. We are further hampered by the public meeting rules. We could have gotten more accomplished if we could have discussed things via email and voted in official public meetings. We all agree that this work will best serve our students, but building it on a bad foundation will not serve students or our OR institutions. We are trying to schedule fall meetings now to alleviate this challenge, but the main obstacle we faced in getting work done this spring was in finding time to have enough members in attendance. We are concerned that if we are only able to schedule 3 meetings between September and October that we may not meet the November deadline; we can only get work done when people can actually be there. To be VERY clear, faculty are not failing to show up; they are not free to show up. Our last poll covered times from 7 am to 7 pm and we still couldn't find a time where we'd have quorum.

Signed by [name of Chair/Co-chairs, below]:

Name: Leigh Graziano

Signature:

Name: Tim Jensen

Signature:

Name: Tristan Striker

Signature:

Date: June 9, 2022

Provide copies to:

CCN Writing Chair/Co-chairs: Leigh Graziano, Tim Jensen, Tristan Striker

Transfer Council Co-chairs: Susan Jeffords

Teresa Rivenes

Transfer Council

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